May, 1992 and during each quarter of 1991 are given in the table below:—

	No. of persons arrested
January to March, 1991	349
April to June, 1991	300
July to September, 1991	201
October to December, 1991	159
May, 1992	19
June, 1992	(Figures are being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House).

(e) The Customs authorities remain alert against smuggling including that of gold. Sophisticated equipment such as X-ray baggage machines and metal detectors are being increasingly utilised. The anti-smuggling drive has been intensified and close coordination is being maintained between all the agencies concerned with the detection and prevention of smuggling.

Reserve Bank of India guidelines for non-banking financial companies

564. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Reserve Bank of India has recently, announced fresh guidelines for non-banking financial companies;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) whether the non-banking financial companies would be benefited as a result thereof; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) and (b) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) have reported that they have recently amended their directions issued to non-banking financial companies. The important amendments are as under:—

(i) The non-banking financial companies can now pay interest or compound interest at monthly rates.

(ii) Deposits can now be accepted by non-banking financial companies in joint names not exceeding three with clauses like "Either or survivor" "Anyone or Survivor" etc.

(iii) Interest at a rate not exceeding 11 percent per annum can be paid if deposits are withdrawn prematurely after 12 months but before 24 months.

(iv) If a company is engaged both depositor, the deposit can be repaid prematurely to the surviving depositor his legal heir with interest at the contracted rate.

(v) If a company is engaged both in hire purchase finance and equipment leasing activities, its business in both these activities will be taken together in determining its classification.

(c) and (d) RBI have reported that the measures relating to deposits provide greater flexibility for depositors and thereby facilitate deposit mobilisation.